Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-07 COME-00 /014 R

DRAFTED BY AF/EPS:LMWHITE:MB
APPROVED BY AF/EPS - ROBERT B. DUNCAN
AF/W - RAMCGUIRE

---- 074474

R 311421Z DEC 75 FM SECSTATE WASHDC TO AMEMBASSY ACCRA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS:BTRA

SUBJECT: TRAVEL OF GOODYEAR TIRE AND RUBBER CO. REPRE---- SENTATIVES

- 1. J. A. MINTON, MANAGER OF PROJECTS, AND J.J. RIEDL, GENERAL MANAGER OF RUBBER DIVISION, GOODYEAR TIRE AND RUBBER CO. PLAN TO VISIT ACCRA JANUARY 29-31 TO INVESTIGATE POSSIBILITIES FOR INVESTING IN A RUBBER PLANTATION AND PROCESSING PLANT. THEY ENVISAGE A PLANTATION OF FROM 30,000 TO 50,000 ACRES AND WILL BE PARTICULARLY INTERESTED IN AVAILABILITY OF LAND, POSSIBILITY OF LONG-TERM CONCESSIONS AT REASONABLE LEASE RATES, AND AVAILABILITY OF LOCAL PARTNERS FOR A POSSIBLE JOINT VENTURE.
- 2. GOODYEAR OFFICIALS WOULD APPRECIATE EMBASSY ASSISTANCE IN ARRANGING FOR THE VISIT. THEY UNDERSTAND THAT FIRM APPOINTMENTS CANNOT BE MADE SO FAR IN ADVANCE BUT THEY WOULD LIKE TO AVOID MAKING TRIP IF KEY OFFICIALS WILL NOT BE AVAILABLE FOR DISCUSSION. THEY WOULD PARTICULARLY LIKE BRIEFING BY AMBASSDOR AND ECONOMIC COUNSELOR EARLY IN VISIT AND WOULD LIKE TO MAKE COURTESY CALLS ON COMMISSIONERS OF AGRICULTURE AND ECONOMIC PLANNING. THEY WOULD ALSO LIKE TO TALK TO KEY DECISION MAKING OFFICIALS IN UNCLASSIFIED

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THESE MINISTRIES. IT HAS BEEN SUGGESTED THAT THEY TALK

TO ROBERT GARDINER IN ECONOMIC PLANNING.

- 3. WE WOULD APPRECIATE ANY ASSISTANCE EMBASSY COULD PROVIDE GOODYEAR OFFICIALS IN DETERMINING WHETHER KEY OFFICIALS WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR DISCUSSIONS AND ANY OTHER ADVICE WHICH MIGHT BE HELPFUL TO GOODYEAR IN CONNECTION WITH THE PROPOSED VENTURE. PLEASE REPORT AS SOON AS POSSIBLE IN ORDER THAT WE MAY INFORM GOODYEAR.
- 4. EXACT ITINERARY OF GOODYEAR OFFICIALS IS AS FOLLOWS:

JAN. 29 AR ACCRA 3:15 P.M. VIA GH 549 JAN. 31 LV ACCRA 10:05 P.M. VIA PA 185 ROBINSON

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994 Channel Indicators: n/a

Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED

Concepts: n/a Control Number: n/a Copy: SINGLE Draft Date: 31 DEC 1975 Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960 Decaption Note: Disposition Action: n/a

Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975STATE

Document Number: 1975STATE305282 Document Source: CORE Document Unique ID: 00 Drafter: LMWHITE:MB Enclosure: n/a Executive Order: N/A Errors: N/A

Film Number: D750451-0905

From: STATE

Handling Restrictions: n/a

Image Path:

Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t1975124/aaaaacrr.tel Line Count: 76 Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM

Office: ORIGIN AF Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a

Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a

Page Count: 2

Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a Reference: n/a Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED Review Authority: ElyME

Review Content Flags: Review Date: 18 JUN 2003

Review Event:

Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <18 JUN 2003 by ReddocGW>; APPROVED <30 JAN 2004 by ElyME>

Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JÚL 2006

Review Media Identifier: Review Referrals: n/a Review Release Date: n/a Review Release Event: n/a **Review Transfer Date:** Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a

Secure: OPEN Status: NATIVE

Subject: TRAVEL OF GOODYEAR TIRE AND RUBBER CO. REPRE---- SENTATIVES TAGS: BTRA
To: ACCRA

Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006